

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AEC-05 IO-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB, GE

SUBJECT: SENAT INTERIM ANSWER TO GDR AIDE MEMOIRE

REF: A) USBERLIN 2298; B) BONN 19371

1. SUMMARY: SENAT INFORMED GDR DECEMBER 18 IT HAD NOTED WITH SATISFACTION CONTENTS OF GDR AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 9 AND THAT AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH RESPONSIBLE PARTIES, SENAT EXPECTED IN JANUARY TO BEGIN TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. ALLIED MISSIONS INTEND TO IMPRESS UPON SENAT NEED FOR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS IN REGARD TO FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO TELEX FROM HEAD OF SENAT CHANCELLERY HERZ, GDR FONOFF OFFICUL MITDANK, WHO HAD DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE TO SENAT DEC 9, MET WITH HERZ DEC 18. HERZ READ MITDANK FOLLOWING STATEMENT:
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QUOTE: THE SENAT OF BERLIN HAS TAKEN COGNIZANCE WITH

SATISFACTION OF THE COMMUNICATION OF DECEMBER 9, 1974 FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR. AFTER CONSULTATION AND AGREEMENT WITH THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES, THE SENAT EXPRESSES ITS WILLINGNESS TO BEGIN THE NECESSARY NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE POSSIBILITIES. THE SENAT WILL TRANSMIT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR APPROPRIATE PROPOSALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END QUOTE.

3. WE UNDERSTAND FROM SENAT OFFICIAL KUNZE THAT MITDANK OBJECTED TO TERM "SENAT OF BERLIN", MAINTAINING THAT SENAT WAS RESPONSIBLE ONLY FOR "BERLIN (WEST)" AND ACCORDINGLY REJECTED COPY OF STATEMENT OFFERED HIM.

4. HERZ AND MITDANK NEVERTHELESS AGREED THAT HERZ STATEMENT WOULD BE PUBLISHED. ASKED HOW INDIVIDUAL PROPOSALS IN GDR AIDE MEMOIRE WOULD BE HANDLED, HERZ SAID THAT SUPPLY OF ENERGY WAS PRIORITY MATTER IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION BUT THAT THE PROPOSAL OF THE GDR WOULD BE SUBJECT OF BEWAG (BERLIN POWER COMPANY) STATEMENT IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. (BEWAG LATER IN DAY ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO TIE BERLIN INTO ELECTRICAL SUPPLY NET FROM EAST AND THEREFORE THE ACQUISITION OF POWER FROM A NUCLEAR PLANT TO BE BUILT IN "EAST PRUSSIA" (SIC) HAS PRIORITY. HE DID NOT EXCLUDE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF POWER FOR WEST BERLIN. VOELKER EMPHASIZED THAT IN ANY EVENT, WEST BERLIN'S POWER NEEDS CAN BE SUPPLIED INTERNALLY UNTIL 1980.) ALTHOUGH HERZ SAID IT WAS UNDECIDED WHETHER FRG OR SENAT WOULD NEGOTIATE ON TELTOW CANAL, HE WENT ON THAT IF SENAT NEGOTIATED, NEGOTIATORS PROBABLY WOULD BE FROM OFFICE OF SENATOR FOR BUILDING AND HOUSING. MITDANK NOTED THAT FROM THEIR SIDE IT WOULD BE MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORTATION. WITHOUT MENTIONING FRG, HERZ SAID IT WAS CLEAR "WHICH IS THE PREFERRED COMPETENCE"; MITDANK AGREED. WITH RESPECT TO CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON SECOND SPANDAU LOCK, MITDANK SAID AGREEMENT BY MID-JANUARY WAS LIKELY WHEREUPON IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE ON TO TELTOW CANAL. AS FOR SUEDEGELAENDE REDEVELOPMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROJECT INCLUDING NEW FREIGHT STATION, MITDANK SAID COMPROMISES HAD BEEN MADE WHICH WOULD BE OF ADVANTAGE TO BOTH SIDES. WITH RESPECT TO FEES FOR USE OF TRACKS IN WEST BERLIN, IF UNNECESSARY POLITICIZATION WERE AVOIDED, AS WAS CASE IN DISCUSSIONS ON DECEMBER 17, THEN IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE REACH AGREEMENT. EQUALLY, THERE WAS INTEREST IN FINDING SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF SAFETY AT GRADE CROSSINGS.

5. TURNING TO VISIT ARRANGEMENTS, MITDANK INDICATED THAT 6 MILLION MARKS ALLOCATED TO TRAVEL AND PASS MATTERS WAS NINETY PERCENT EXHAUSTED AND NEW PAYMENT WAS NECESSARY. HE ALSO DISCUSSED SOME DETAILS OF NEW LIBERALIZED PROVISIONS FOR VISITS, ETC.

6. HERZ INFORMED SENAT LIAISON OFFICERS PRIOR TO MEETING WITH MITDANK THAT TRANSIT ROUTE PROJECTS WERE TO BE SET IN RANK ORDER OF PRIORITY BY DECEMBER 20, BUT THAT SINCE ALL OF TRANSIT ROUTE PROJECTS MENTIONED BY GDR IN ITS TWO AIDES MEMOIRE HAD BEEN WORKED OUT IN NIER-GAUS DISCUSSIONS, SENAT CONSIDERED THEM FIRM OFFERS AND NO "SUBSTITUTIONS" WOULD BE POSSIBLE. PACKAGE WAS TO BE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL TO FEDERAL CABINET BY JANUARY 7 SO THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD BEGIN WITH GDR BY END OF JANUARY.

7. ALTHOUGH HERZ INFORMED LIAISON OFFICERS OF HIS PROPOSED MEETING WITH MITDANK EVENING BEFORE MEETING TOOK PLACE AND JUST PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT TO PRESS, ALLIED MISSIONS ARE NOT HAPPY WITH LACK OF ANY REAL CONSULTATION ON SENAT NEGOTIATING INTENTIONS. BK/L(73)46 REQUESTS SENAT NOT ONLY TO HAVE ALLIED PERMISSION BEFORE ENTERING INTO NEGOTIATIONS OR CONCLUDING AGREEMENTS BUT TO CONSULT WITH ALLIES WHEN NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONTEMPLATED. LEAVING ASIDE REQUIREMENTS OF BK/L, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN KEEPING WITH GOOD SENAT-ALLIED RELATIONS TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH ON ELEMENTS OF NEW NEGOTIATIONS THAT COULD POSE TRICKY PROBLEMS FOR WEST BERLIN STATUS. AT MEETING OF ALLIED POLADS AND LEGAL ADVISERS DECEMBER 18, NUMBER OF SUCH POTENTIAL PROBLEMS WERE TICKED OFF, INCLUDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPLICABILITY OF TRANSIT TRAFFIC AGREEMENT TO ANY NEW ROADS, CONSTRUCTION AT RAIL AND HIGHWAY CROSSING POINTS, NEGOTIATING CHANNELS RE STOP-OVERS AT REICHSBAHN STATIONS IN WEST BERLIN, TELTOW CANAL, ETC. (VIEWS ON QUESTIONS PARA 3, REF B, WILL BE ANSWERED SEPTTEL.) IT WAS AGREED CHAIRMAN POLAD SHOULD SEE HERZ AND REMIND HIM OF IMPORTANCE OF TIMELY CONSULTATIONS ON ALL NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT SENAT AND FRG APPEAR TO BE ON THRESHOLD OF BUSY NEGOTIATING SEASON.SELIGMANN

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